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Winding up of the Food Production Department.

* 102 Q.—Sri K. GOVINDA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Madras Government is contemplating to wind up the Food Production Department; and if so, why; and

(*b*) whether any steps have already been taken in this direction in the Visakhapatnam district, and if so what?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) No."

Sri K. GOVINDA RAO :—" May I know whether some of the Food Production Works which were in progress in various parts of the Visakhapatnam district have been stopped suddenly? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" That is not correct."

Sri R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" Is there any proposal before the Government to constitute the Ramanathapuram, Madurai and Tirunelveli districts into one Food Production unit under the charge of one Engineer? If so, will the Hon. Minister see that the headquarters of the Engineer is located at Sivaganga in Ramanathapuram district in which there are the Sivaganga and Ramanathapuram Estates? The Food Production Engineers attend to tank repair and minor irrigation works, and these two estates are badly in need of such works."

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" This is a matter of detail. Any reorganization that we may do in the present set-up of the Public Works Department will not affect the Food Production Department."

Sri T. N. VENKATASUBBA REDDI :—" Will the Government merge the Food Production Department with the Public Works Department in the interests of economy? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The Food Production Department attends to not only Public Works as such but also to various other duties like supply of engines, digging of artesian wells, supply of improved seeds and control of pests and diseases. All these kinds of work cannot go into the Public Works Department."

Sri T. VISWANATHAM :—" With reference to the answer of the Hon. Minister that no Grow More Food works have been stopped in the Visakhapatnam district, may I know whether the following works have not been stopped :—

(1) Special repairs to Kumili Big Tank;

(2) Improvements to Lakshminaidu Tank of Ippalavalasa;

(3) Revised estimate for special repairs to Kittu Tank of Veduruvada;

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(4) Revised estimate for repairs to cyclone damages to Thotada regulator and its supply channel;

(5) Revised estimate for special repairs to Tamara Tank of Narapadu;

(6) Special repairs to Veduruparti channel;

Will the Hon. Minister look into the matter and give an assurance that they will be started again?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We are not going to take up any new tank improvement scheme this year. But we have issued orders to proceed with those works that have already been started. If it is a case of works which have already been taken up and then stopped, I am prepared to look into it."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" Will the Hon. Minister order the starting of works which have already been sanctioned, and will he be pleased to state whether any works have been slowed down during the year?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have already said that no new tank improvement works will be taken up this year. But works which have been started will be proceeded with; they will not be stopped or slowed down."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I submit that for the execution of the works mentioned by me, agreements have already been entered into with the contractors?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Perhaps this is what was referred to by the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition in his speech. The question is whether they have already been started. If they have not been already started, they will not be executed this year."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that some schemes which are approved by the Grow More Food Department are sabotaged by the Revenue Department, and will he look into the matter?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We have not reached the stage of sabotage of one department by another department."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" In view of the decontrol of food, will the Government intensify Food Production schemes?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We are doing that as far as possible."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" May I know what the function of the producer-*cum*-consumer co-operative societies in Malabar will be since food has been decontrolled now?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Those people who produce will consume also perhaps."

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SRI K. GOVINDA RAO :—" Arising out of the answer that no works in progress have been stopped, may I ask whether the Hon. Minister is aware that the work on the Varada sub-channel of Chodavaram has been stopped suddenly after incurring an expenditure of about Rs. 1,000? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The sum of Rs. 1,000 was perhaps spent on preliminary investigation or some such thing. Anyway I am prepared to look into it, and find out what the position is."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to tell us how much money is being spent on the Food Production Department, and whether the money is spent usefully for the growing of more food? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We are under the *bona fide* impression that we are spending money only on useful purposes, and that we are getting proper return for the money spent."

SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM :—" May I know whether there is any scheme to provide employment for the clerks who worked in the Food Department and, if not, why not? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The question is about the Food Production Department and not the Civil Supplies Department. Evidently the hon. Member is referring to the clerks who were working in the Civil Supplies Department."

SRI K. SUBBA REDDI :—" May I know how many schemes have been completed under the Grow More Food Campaign? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Notice."

SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNAIAH :—" రాష్ట్రంలో అధికోత్పత్తి స్కీములన్నీ కూడా ఇకముందు ప్రోత్సాహించకుండా ఆపివేస్తామంటున్నారు; అట్లయితే, దేశంలో ఆహారోత్పత్తి ఎక్కువ అయిపోయింది అని అనుకుంటారా? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" எனக்கு கேள்வி புரியவில்லை."

SRI S. S. KOLKEBAIL :—" Is the Hon. Food Minister aware that in the South Kanara district, several minor schemes which have been investigated, estimated and sanctioned under the Grow More Food Scheme, have been ordered to be stopped indefinitely? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have given the decision of the Government that only works which have been started will be put through. If any case where this rule has not been observed is brought to my notice, I am prepared to look into it."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Why are no new works undertaken? Is it due to want of finance or has it anything to do with decontrol? "

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MR. SPEAKER :—" The present question is about Food Production Department. The hon. Member may give notice of a separate question."

SRI P. V. R. GAJAPATHI RAJU :—" The Hon. Minister was pleased to say in reply to a supplementary question about producer-*cum*-consumer co-operative societies that those who produced would also consume. Probably he meant the individual producer and the individual consumer, whereas the question was about collective production and collective consumption. Therefore, I would like to ask the Government whether they will take steps to revitalise the P.C.C. societies so that they may increase food production? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The P.C.C. societies have nothing to do with the Food Production Department, and that is why I gave that answer."

SRI P. S. RANGASAMY NAIDU :—" The Hon. the Finance Minister said in his Budget speech that the relief works would be continued till the next harvest season. Then, why are Food Production works stopped in my district? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" That statement relates to famine relief works. But this question relates to Food Production Department."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" We have been told that even those schemes on the investigation of which some money had been spent have been stopped. The point is whether the Hon. Minister is prepared to take up those schemes which have already been sanctioned by the Food Production Department though actual execution of the work has not yet been started. I hope the Hon. Minister will say that they will be continued."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" They will be continued, but not this year."

Reversion of certain Sub-Inspectors of Police in the Southern range.

* 103 Q.—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of acting Sub-Inspectors of Police that have been reverted in the Southern Range district-war; and

(*b*) the reasons for the same?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (*a*)

District.	Number reverted.
South Arcot	5
Tanjore	9
Madurai Rural	11
Madurai Urban	5
Ramanathapuram	12
Tirunelveli	10